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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U.S.D.A.....Washington, D. C.....November 19, 1953.....SS 132

Third Largest Crop Total Still in Prospect

October weather was favorable to ideal for maturity and harvest of late-growing crops, and total expected crop production increased slightly. Prospects are still for the third largest total of crops—nearly up to the 1952 volume, but well below the 1948 record.

Weather favored the harvest, but was not good for seeding and development of fall-sown grains, until good rains fell in late October.

4% Less Corn Than in 1952; 5% Above Average

Corn crop is now estimated at 3,180 million bushels, only 16 million less than on Oct. 1. This production is 4 percent below the 1952 crop but it is 5 percent larger than the 10-year average. Harvest progressed under unusually favorable weather during October and corn is generally of good to excellent quality.

Winter Wheat Prospects Vary

Winter wheat prospects on November 1 varied widely by areas, but on the whole are better than a year earlier. October rains were beneficial. Rains continuing into November and the snowfall in the East are certain to further benefit fall-sown crops.

Cotton Crop 6% Larger Than in 1952

The November forecast of a 16,093,000-bale crop is up 3 percent from the October forecast. October weather continued nearly ideal for harvesting cotton in practically all States. The 1952 crop was 15,136,000 bales; the 1942-51 average was 12,215,000.

7 Million Tons Less Grain Than in 1952

8 grains, 155 million tons—topped in 4 of last 7 years but in no year prior to 1946.

Food grains, 38 million tons—less than in 1952 but more than in 1949-51.

Feed grains, 117 million tons—exceeded 6 times before.

October 1, 1953, Stocks in All Positions

Commodity	Mil. bu.	Food Grains
Wheat.....	1,539.2 ...	Largest of record.
Rye.....	20.3 ...	56% above Oct. '52.
Feed Grains		
Corn.....	763.7 ...	Relatively large
Oats.....	1,063.9 ...	Below average
Barley	232.4 ...	Among smallest of record
Sorghum grain..	7.3 ...	Relatively small
4 feed grains...	2,067.3 ...	1/5 above Oct. '52; smaller than Oct. '49, '50, '51.
Oilseeds		
Soybeans.....	11.0 ...	Triple Oct. '52 stocks
Flaxseed.....	41.4 ...	A fourth larger than '51 and '52

Hay and Forage Supplies Adequate

Total hay and forage supplies, although adequate, are below average and not well distributed according to feeding needs. Government drought-relief feed program covered 627 counties as of November 17.

November 1 Pasture Condition at Record Low

Pasture condition on November 1, at 52 percent, is the lowest for the month in the 20 years of record. For the 1953 pasture season, condition averaged 71 percent of normal—lowest since 1939. 1953 pastures were considerably better than in the great drought years of 1934 and 1936, however, when seasonal conditions averaged 53 and 59 percent.

Soybean Crop Declined During October

A soybean crop of 252 million bushels is in prospect, almost 3 percent less than was indicated on Oct. 1. Crop is 13.5 percent below the 1952 crop and is the lowest since 1949.

Peanut Crop 5% Larger Than in 1952

The 1953 crop of peanuts from the acreage for picking and threshing is estimated at 1,427 million pounds. This is 2 percent over the October 1 forecast and 5 percent larger than last year's production, but only 69 percent of the 1942-51 average.

Deciduous Fruit Down 3% From 1952

Deciduous fruit production in 1953 is 3 percent less than a year earlier and 7 percent below average. Smaller crops of grapes and pears account for most of the decline from a year ago.

Parity Prices for Farm Products and Actual Prices Received

Commodity and Unit	Actual Price		Parity Price
	Sept. 15, 1953	Oct. 15, 1953	Oct. 15, 1953
Wheat, bu.	dol. 1.92	1.94	2.44
Corn, bu.	dol. 1.50	1.34	1.77
Peanuts, lb.	ct. 11.0	10.9	13.2
Cotton, lb. 1/.....	ct. 33.09	32.46	34.22
Potatoes, bu.	dol. .989	.897	1.58
Hogs, 100 lb.	dol. 23.80	21.30	20.00
Beef cattle, 100 lb.	dol. 15.80	14.70	20.80
Calves, 100 lb.	dol. 15.50	14.30	23.20
Lambs, 100 lb.	dol. 17.70	16.60	22.60
Butterfat, lb.	ct. 64.8	65.7	73.7
Milk, wholesale, 100 lb.	dol. 4.43	2/ 4.63	4.64
Chickens, live, lb.	ct. 24.3	23.3	30.4
Eggs, doz.	ct. 51.4	53.3	3/ 47.4

1/ American upland cotton.
2/ Preliminary.
3/ Transitional parity.

Apples—2% larger than the short 1952 crop; 14% below average.

Peaches—2% above 1952; below average.

Pears—6% less than 1952; 4% less than average.

Grapes—13% below 1952; 4% below average.

Tree nuts—6% less than in 1952; 10% above average.

Citrus Harvest Progressing Satisfactorily

Harvesting of citrus is progressing satisfactorily with good crops of oranges, tangerines, and grapefruit in prospect for Florida. Larger citrus crops are in prospect in Texas than in 1952, but much below the production before the freezes. Navel orange production, in California and Arizona combined, is below last year and average. The 1953-54 lemon crop in California is expected to be 9 percent above the 1952-53 crop and 2 percent above average.

More Potatoes and Sweetpotatoes Than A Year Ago

Potatoes are estimated at 370.9 million bushels, 7 percent more than the 1952 crop, but 10 percent smaller than the 1942-51 average.

The sweetpotato crop of 33.5 million bushels is 18 percent larger than the relatively short 1952 crop but 38 percent smaller than the 1942-51 average.

Vegetable Production Above Average

Total production of commercial vegetables for fresh market—10.2 million tons—is 5 percent larger than either the 1952 tonnage or average. For processing, estimates for 10 vegetables that make up about 97 percent of the tonnage of the 11 covered by estimates, indicate a total of nearly 6 million tons, a half-million tons less than in 1952, but about a half-million above average.

October Milk Production at New High

October milk production totaled 8,779 million pounds, a new high for the month and about 1 percent above a year ago. Favorable fall weather and liberal supplemental feeding offset the shortage of late pasture feed and held production to a less than average seasonal decline.

Record High Egg Production in October

Farm egg production totaled 4,614 million eggs in October, a record high production for the month. This is 6 percent more than in October 1952 and 33 percent above the 1942-51 average.

Cattle Feeding Situation

As of November 1 indications were that fewer cattle will be placed on feed this season than a year earlier. Decreases are expected to be rather general over the country. Shipment of stocker and feeder cattle into 9 Corn Belt States July-October were about 24 percent smaller than last year. Western cattle feeding operations are expected to be below a year ago, although California is expected to continue at the high level of a year ago and a few other States may equal last year.

Prices Received and Paid Lower

Lower prices for hogs and cattle, coupled with a seasonal decline in corn prices were primarily responsi-

ble for a 6-point decline in the Index of Prices Received by Farmers from mid-September to mid-October. Increases in prices of milk, eggs, and wheat were only partially offsetting.

The index of prices paid, interest, taxes, and wage rates declined 1 point to 276 as of October 15. A year earlier the index stood at 284.

The parity ratio declined 1 point to 91, the lowest ratio recorded since May 1941.

Farm Employment Drops

As farm work slacked off, farm employment in late October dropped to 10,328,000 persons—9 percent fewer than a month earlier and about 1 percent fewer than a year earlier.

Prices Received and Prices Paid by Farmers
Index Numbers, 1910-14=100

Item	Oct. 1952	Sept. 1953	Oct. 1953
Prices received by farmers	282	256	250
Crops.....	260	234	231
Food grains	240	219	223
Feed grains and hay	219	200	187
Tobacco	429	452	439
Cotton	311	279	274
Fruit	215	221	214
Truck crops.....	189	159	175
Oil-bearing crops.....	304	251	255
Livestock and products	301	276	267
Meat animals	328	299	273
Dairy products	316	274	283
Poultry and eggs	228	231	236
Prices paid by farmers:			
All commodities	269	259	258
Commodities used in living	269	270	270
Commodities used in			
production	269	247	246
All commodities, interest,			
taxes, and wage rates	294	281	280
Parity ratio (prices rec'd to			
prices paid by farmers)	99	92	91

Current Indexes for Agriculture

Index Numbers	Base Period	Oct. 1953
Prices received by farmers	1910-14=100	250
Prices paid by farmers, interest,		
taxes and wage rates	1910-14=100	276
Parity ratio.....	1910-14=100	91
Farm wage rates	1910-14=100	515
Wholesale prices of food	1947-49=100	1/ 107
Retail prices of food.....	1947-49=100	T/ 114
Weekly factory earnings	1947-49=100	T/ 149
Production Comparisons	Jan.-Oct. 1952	Jan.-Oct. 1953
Milk, (bil. lb.)	98.8	103.2
Eggs, (bil.)	51.5	51.9
Beef, (dr. wt., mil. lb.)	2/ 5,167	2/ 6,795
Lamb & Mutton (dr. wt., mil. lb.)	2/ 415	2/ 471
Pork & lard, (mil. lb.)	2/ 8,140	2/ 6,973
All meats, (dr. wt., mil. lb.)	2/ 14,165	2/ 14,861

1/ September 1953 figures.

2/ January-September under Federal inspection.

CURRENT ESTIMATES

Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Marketing Margin and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-food Products

Year and month	Retail cost 1/	Farm value 2/	Marketing margin	Farmer's share
1952 average	\$1,028	\$481	\$547	47%
1952 - Sept.	1,047	493	554	47
1953 - Aug. 3/	1,017	461	556	45
Sept. 4/	1,013	460	553	45

1/ Retail cost of average quantities of farm foods purchased per urban wage-earner and clerical-worker family in 1952, calculated from retail prices collected by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

2/ Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

3/ Revised.

4/ Preliminary.

For comparisons with earlier months and years see The Marketing and Transportation Situation.

U. S. Farm Output, Indicated 1953 with Comparison
(Index Numbers, 1935-39 = 100)

Item	1935-39	1948-52	1952	Indicated 1953 1/
Total farm output	100	140	144	143
Livestock production 2/	100	139	146	146
Crop production 3/	100	133	134	132
Farm-produced power 4/	100	50	41	37

1/ Indications for 1953 based chiefly on the November 1953 report of the Crop Reporting Board.

2/ Dairy products, poultry products, meat animals, wool and mohair.

This index measures "gross" livestock production, i.e., feed and pasture consumed as well as product added in converting feed and pasture into livestock and livestock products.

3/ All crop production including production of feed for farm horses and mules.

4/ Not included in total farm output. Farm-produced power production includes the feed and pasture consumed by horses and mules, and the product added in converting this feed and pasture into animal power.

Cash Receipts from Farming, United States 1/

Source	Sept. 1953 Mil. dol.	Oct. 1953 2/ Mil. dol.
Farm marketings and CCC loans 3/	3,192	3,700
Livestock and products	1,444	1,600
Meat animals	768	
Dairy products	333	
Poultry and eggs	329	
Other	14	
Crops	1,748	2,100
Food grains	418	
Feed crops	128	
Cotton (lint and seed)	473	
Oil-bearing crops	62	
Tobacco	226	
Vegetables	196	
Fruits and tree nuts	132	
Other	113	
Government payments	5	
Total cash receipts	3,197	

1/ For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month.

Cash Receipts from Farm Marketings, by States, Sept. 1953 1/2/

State and Region	Livestock and products \$ Thous.	Crops \$ Thous.	Total \$ Thous.
Maine	9,632	2,316	11,948
New Hampshire	5,422	1,685	7,107
Vermont	8,351	866	9,217
Massachusetts	12,172	8,494	20,666
Rhode Island	1,554	964	2,518
Connecticut	10,716	3,172	13,888
New York	50,868	46,577	97,445
New Jersey	21,404	10,516	31,920
Pennsylvania	49,149	22,831	71,980
North Atlantic	169,268	97,421	266,689
Ohio	58,329	46,806	105,135
Indiana	71,787	36,547	108,334
Illinois	95,198	59,608	154,806
Michigan	34,150	38,546	72,696
Wisconsin	66,984	18,331	85,315
East North Central	326,448	199,838	526,286
Minnesota	65,196	32,739	97,935
Iowa	140,839	14,282	155,121
Missouri	60,793	40,056	100,849
North Dakota	14,330	62,888	77,218
South Dakota	25,760	29,250	55,010
Nebraska	56,908	45,933	102,841
Kansas	54,300	58,733	113,033
West North Central	418,126	283,881	702,007
Delaware	6,752	2,958	9,710
Maryland	14,752	6,882	21,634
Virginia	25,138	13,165	38,303
West Virginia	10,086	2,648	12,734
North Carolina	17,374	216,342	233,716
South Carolina	8,060	79,681	87,741
Georgia	22,090	55,705	77,795
Florida	10,630	7,460	18,090
South Atlantic	114,882	384,841	499,723
Kentucky	24,586	5,803	30,389
Tennessee	20,932	32,262	53,194
Alabama	13,737	55,659	69,396
Mississippi	12,922	68,386	81,308
Arkansas	15,408	53,898	69,306
Louisiana	9,095	47,668	56,763
Oklahoma	36,896	19,844	56,740
Texas	75,695	133,092	208,787
South Central	209,271	416,612	625,883
Montana	16,237	30,999	47,236
Idaho	9,544	29,139	38,683
Wyoming	18,515	4,517	23,032
Colorado	25,117	31,299	56,416
New Mexico	5,253	5,506	10,759
Arizona	4,708	12,096	16,804
Utah	11,419	5,711	17,130
Nevada	3,559	522	4,081
Washington	15,414	76,360	91,774
Oregon	16,578	37,435	54,013
California	79,434	131,834	211,268
Western Region	205,778	365,418	571,196
United States	1,443,773	1,748,011	3,191,784

1/ All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month, minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month.

2/ For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

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